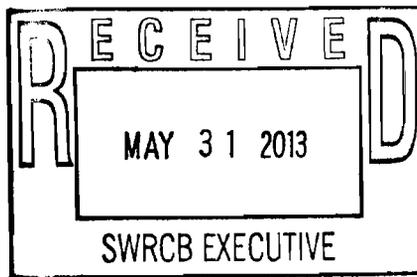


Thomas Howard, Executive Director
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



DWR

May 25, 2013

RE: Pinecrest Lake mandated elevations for recreational purposes between Memorial Day and Labor Day, Spring Gap-Stanislaus Hydroelectric Project, FERC #2130

Dear Mr. Howard,

I am a Tuolumne County resident and local business owner/operator. I recreate here in the County almost exclusively, and have done so since I was a child and my parents brought the family and I here for vacations and such since the late 1940's/early 1950's. I relocated to Tuolumne County in the late 1970's and I rarely go out of the area as every thing I need, like or want is basically here for me. One of my favorite pastimes is, and always has been visiting Pinecrest Lake and hiking around it or swimming in it. I have seen the lake at all different lake/water levels through out the years and it has never diminished my enjoyment of the visit to the lake. Pinecrest is like any other lake in that it can be almost too full to overflowing one time to way low and to where even old tree stumps appear out in the lake. So what? It's still an enjoyable visit and it will be a different condition and experience at the next visit!

This lake has been effectively and carefully controlled/monitored by P.G. & E. with input from T.U.D. and previous water entities for decades with all factions of the County, including recreation, being adequately and properly served. There is no need for any change in how things have always been handled in the past nor is there any need for any kind of outside intervention or needless restrictions to be applied to hinder a well working situation. At no other lake in the State of California that I'm aware of is recreation use of a lake put above consumptive use. What makes this lake different from all the rest of the lakes? Besides, if the Pinecrest cabin permit-tees or recreation concessionaires want to claim that low lake levels have financially harmed them, I feel that they must present concrete proof that they have been as I feel that their claim is completely false from what I've witnessed when I've been at the lake and my time as a citizen of Tuolumne County!

In closing I want to reiterate that any artificial lake level mandate will have a very negative affect on the lives of Tuolumne County citizens and our local businesses and agriculture activities. Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my input here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Ron W. Ringen".

Ron W. Ringen
17175 Overland Trail, Sonora, CA 95370
209-533-5044 inspect@mlode.com